

Reforming Our Nation's Broken Health Care System

A Statement from Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"I strongly support President Obama's goal of reforming our nation's broken health care system with a focus on reducing cost, increasing access, and ensuring quality care for all Americans. The current system is not sustainable for families, businesses, taxpayers, or providers of health care. Some 60 million Americans are uninsured or under-insured and are too often left to access care in the emergency room -- where it is too expensive and too late. Millions more are just one pink-slip away from completely losing health insurance."

"It's time to build a health care system focused on outcomes for patients rather than profits for the health care industry. To achieve this goal, access to comprehensive health insurance and basic health care must be expanded. Preventative services and public health must become priority investments that will reduce costs. All of America's children must be covered. Prescription drugs should be affordable. No one should be denied coverage due to pre-existing conditions. And medical decisions should be made by patients and doctors - not by insurance company accountants."

"For the many Americans who are satisfied with their doctors and private insurance legislation moving forward in the U.S. House ensures you can keep your doctor and policy while providing relief from skyrocketing insurance premiums. For families who need an affordable insurance option, I strongly support the creation of a public option that will expand the opportunity for coverage and create competition in the marketplace to keep premium costs down and ensure quality care."

[**August 13, 2009** : Statement -- McCollum hosts health care reform community meeting in St. Paul](#)

[**Video Message:** Rep. McCollum on the need for health care reform](#)

**U.S. House Unveils Sweeping Health Care Reform Legislation:
*America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009 (H.R. 3200)***

[**Summary of House Bill**](#)

[**Text of House Bill**](#)

[**Energy & Commerce Committee Clearinghouse**](#)

[**Education & Labor Committee Clearinghouse**](#)

[**Ways & Means Committee Clearinghouse**](#)

[**President Obama's statement**](#)

[**Health Care Reform Documents from Majority Leader Steny Hoyer**](#)



national government. McGovern's death in 2009 was a significant loss to the health care reform movement. The hearing at the State Department was a key event in the process of passing the Affordable Care Act. The hearing was held on September 23, 2009, and was the first of several hearings held by the House of Representatives. The hearing was held in the Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2115. The hearing was chaired by Representative Henry Waxman (D-Calif.). The hearing was held in the presence of a large number of witnesses, including members of Congress, government officials, and members of the public. The hearing was held in a room that was filled with people, and the atmosphere was one of serious discussion. The hearing was a key event in the process of passing the Affordable Care Act, and it was a significant moment in the history of health care reform in the United States.